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Philibertia Torreyi A. Gray, Proc. Am. Acad. 12: 64. 1876.

Apparently only collected once. Close to *Philibertella elegans* (Decne.); but differing in its slightly less acute corolla segments, and less conspicuous outer crown. The scales of the stamineal crown in *Philibertella elegans* are vertically flattened, acute and almost petaloid, whereas those of *P. Torreyi* are truncate, rounded or flat on top.

Original locality, Rocky Hills on the Cibolo, a tributary of the Rio Grande, southwest Texas.

Type in Herbarium, Columbia University.

The specimens examined for these notes are those contained in the Herbarium of Columbia University and the U. S. Nat. Herbarium at Washington.

Plants from Nez Perces County, Idaho.

BY A. A. HELLER.

(PLATES 309, 310.)

Four months of the season of 1896 were spent in northern Idaho by Mrs. Heller and myself, during which time many interesting species were collected. Among these a dozen or more seem to be new, and have already been distributed as such, although not yet described. As soon as possible a complete report on the work will be published, with descriptions of the new species, and notes on all of the others. The following new and noteworthy species are discussed in this paper:

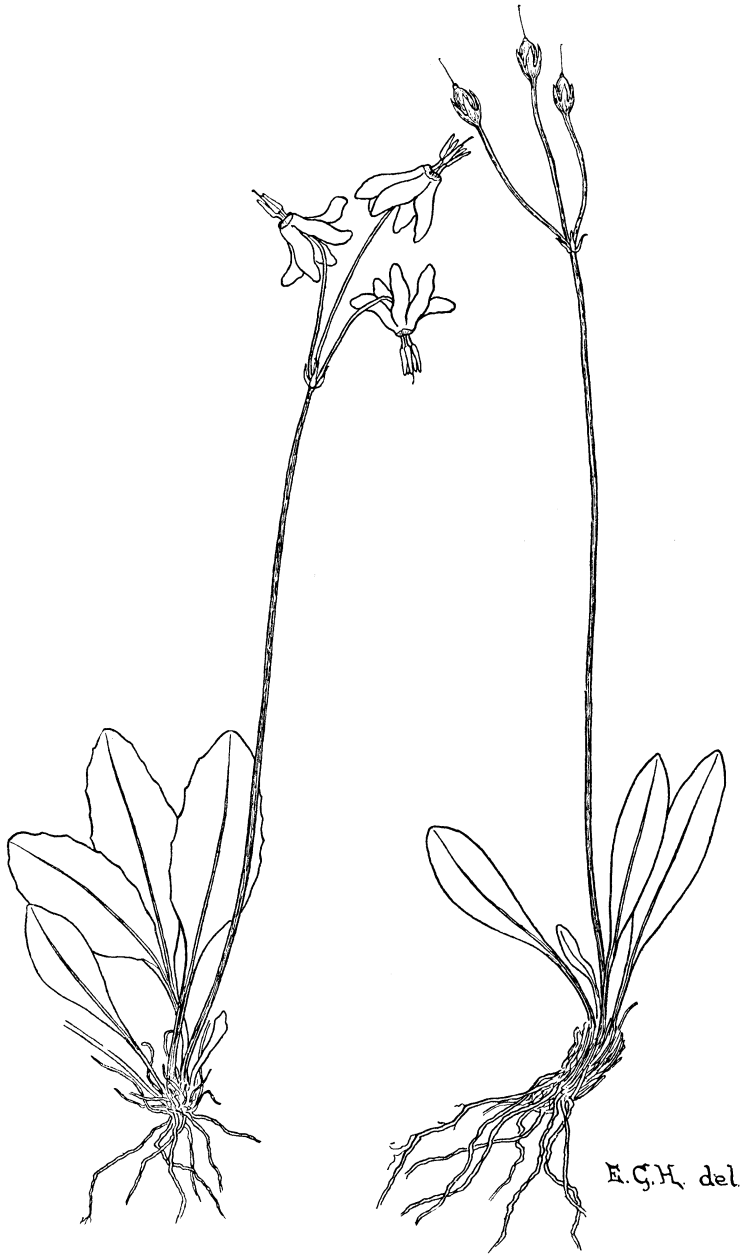
POA SCABRIFOLIA n. n.

Poa filifolia Vasey, Cont. U. S. Nat. Herb. 1: 271. Not Schur.

The very appropriate name which Dr. Vasey gave to this beautiful species, is not tenable on account of the earlier *Poa filifolia*, published by Schur, in Enum. Pl. Transs. 768. 1866. It is plentiful at the type locality, on the left bank of the Clearwater river, near the Upper Ferry, east of Lewiston.

RANUNCULUS ARCUATUS n. n.

Ranunculus tenellus Nutt.; T. & G. Fl. N. A. 1: 230. 1838. Not Viviani.



DODECATHEON PUBERULENTUM HELLER.



THALESIA PURPUREA HELLER.

Ranunculus Nelsonii var. *tenellus* A. Gray, Proc. Am. Acad. 8: 374. 1872.

Ranunculus occidentalis var. *tenellus* A. Gray, Proc. Am. Acad. 21: 373. 1886.

Ranunculus Nelsonii glabriusculus Holzinger, Cont. U. S. Nat. Herb. 3: 210. 1895. Not *R. glabriusculus* Rupr.

Ranunculus Bongardi var. *tenellus* Greene, Erythea, 3: 54. 1895.

A species which is abundant in moist or wet places in the Craig mountains. It was collected in two localities at Lake Waha, one at the head of the lake, and the other in the Sweetwater cañon. It was also noticed about Forest. In this connection it may be well to call attention to an unjust custom which botanists have fallen into. Professor Greene, in 1895, published *Ranunculus Bongardi* as a new species, and at the same time reduced to it as a variety the *Ranunculus tenellus* of Nuttall, published in 1838. In doing this he has merely followed a prevalent custom. Would it not be better if we, who are working for a stable nomenclature, would show more justice in such matters. If a new plant is discovered, do we have a right to describe it as a new species, while reducing to it as a variety, some plant described as a species years before? The proper way, as it appears to me, is to describe our own new plant as a variety of the old species, if we must describe varieties.

SOPHIA FILIPES (A. Gray).

Sisymbrium incisum β *filipes* A. Gray, Pl. Fend. 8. 1849.

Sisymbrium longipedicellatum Fourn. Sisymb. 59. 1865.

This species is very common about Lewiston, and at various other places in Nez Perces county. It bids fair to become a weed in wheat fields, as well as in grass lands. The type specimen was "from Clear Water, Oregon, by Mr. Spaulding," but that is a mistake, if the Clearwater river is meant, for the Clearwater empties into the Snake at Lewiston, and no part of it flows near the State of Oregon.

DODECATHEON PUBERULENTUM n. sp.

Crown 1–2 cm. long, covered with the petioles of fallen leaves, not producing bulblets; leaves spatulate or oblong-obovate, 5–6 cm. long, including a margined petiole of 2 cm., glabrous, light green, thin, but firm, entire or slightly crenate, somewhat pointed,

midvein prominent, yellowish; scape 2 dm. high, slender, tinged with purple, puberulent; umbel usually three-flowered, subtended by five narrowly lanceolate bracts 3–4 mm. long; pedicels 2–4 cm. long, slender, puberulent, the upper half somewhat striate; calyx puberulent, 5 mm. long, the five lanceolate lobes equalling or slightly exceeding the tube; corolla 1 cm. long, rose-purple, the everted tube marked with a bright band of yellow; stamens 5 mm. long, five in number; filaments 2 mm. long, bright yellow, the connectives lanceolate, half the length of the anthers, with yellow base and purple tip; style slender, 6 mm. long, hence longer than the stamens; capsule narrowly ovate-oblong, slightly longer than the calyx, tipped with a knob-like point, which splits into five segments. (Plate 309.)

The type is no. 2985, collected April 29, 1896, on the left bank of the Clearwater, near the Upper Ferry. It is not uncommon in that vicinity, growing on grassy hillsides. Some of no. 63, listed in Cont. U. S. Nat. Herb. 3: 239, as "*Dodecatheon* sp." was first collected here by the writer, but specimens from other places were later placed under the same number. It is related to *D. Cusickii* Greene, but pronounced distinct by Professor Greene. No. 3169, collected at Lake Waha June 3, 1896, and distributed as *D. puberulentum*, is probably *D. Cusickii*.

FRASERA FASTIGIATA (Pursh).

Swertia fastigiata Pursh, Fl. Am. Sept. 101. 1814.

Frasera thyrsiflora Hook. Kew. Journ. Bot. 3: 288. 1851.

The original locality of this species is given by Pursh as "on the Missouri flats, near the Rocky mountains. *M. Lewis* * * * * July." Dr. Gray, in the Synoptical Flora says: "Idaho and interior of Oregon, on the tributaries of the Columbia, *Lewis, Douglas, Geyer, Spaulding*. Rare and little known. Pursh's plant, seen in herb. Lambert, where the true station is recorded: 'in moist and wet places on the Quamash flats, June 4, 1806,' at which date Lewis and Clarke were on the Kooskooskie (now Salmon) river, near which the species was collected by Spaulding."

Dr. Gray's statement concerning the identity of the Indian name "Kooskooskie" is erroneous. The Clearwater, and not the Salmon, is known by that name. The "Quamash Flats," or "Camas Prairie," is near Mt. Idaho, on the South Fork of the Clearwater.

The species is common on the Craig Mountains, growing usually on grassy slopes or open glades, or along streams in mead-

ows, at elevations of 2000 to 3500 feet. It is also plentiful in meadows in the vicinity of Genesee and Moscow, Latah county.

It was collected at Lake Waha, near Moscow, by Sandberg, MacDougal and Heller, in 1892, while acting as field agents for the Department of Agriculture. It is their no. 239, erroneously determined by Mr. Holzinger as *Frasera speciosa* Dougl., a species which belongs to a different section and is easily separated from *F. fastigiata* by having the leaves in fours and sixes instead of threes, by their different shape, and by the more leafy stem.

THALESIA PURPUREA n. sp.

Rootstock stout, fascicled or sparingly branched, 5-6 cm. long; scales glabrous, broad, acute, prominently veined; scapes stout, 1-1.5 dm. long, channeled, glandular-pubescent, especially above; calyx equally 5-lobed, glandular-pubescent, prominently 3-nerved, the lateral nerves close to the margin, the lobes twice the length of the tube, long-acuminate from a triangular base, and reaching to the curve of the corolla; corolla deep violet-purple, 3 cm. long, curved near the middle, glandular-pubescent, lobes broadly oblong or obovate, usually notched or sometimes merely rounded, fringed with short, glandular hairs, marked with three yellowish veins; stamens smooth, the anthers obovate, short, acuminate at the base; style flat; stigma flat, broad, 2-lobed, the lobes obovate, somewhat granular-roughened; ovary glabrous. (Plate 310.)

The type is no. 3099, collected May 20, 1896, near the mouth of the Potlatch. The species resembles *T. uniflora* in the dried state, but is of an entirely different habit. Instead of growing in shaded woods, in rich, loose ground, it is found in open, gravelly, or rocky ground, where it flourishes best. Specimens found near bushes were always dwarfed and stunted.

The same plant was collected on the rocky hills on the right bank of the Clearwater above Lewiston, by Sandberg, MacDougal and Heller, in 1892, under no. 11, and determined by Holzinger as *T. uniflora*, in Cont. U. S. Nat. Herb. 3: 245. Although I have often collected *T. uniflora* in the woods of Pennsylvania, this Idaho plant, when seen growing, was not for a moment considered identical with it.

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